

tabs 46h, or buckle and tine 48b or the like) on each wristband section 20 and 20' of each first and second friendship bracelet 10 and 10'. Then the next step 420 is slidably removing from each wristband section 20 and 20', one of the plurality of closed loop members 60 and 60' thereon, where closed loop member 60 and 60' has a first indicia 62 thereon and a second indicia 72 thereon, respectively. The first and second indicia 62 and 72 are different from each other (e.g. first indicia 62 being a design such as a ★ [star], a ▲ [triangle], etc. and the second indicia 72 being a indicia symbol such as initials JCA, a corporate symbol, etc.) and being on each different closed loop members 60 and 60', respectively.--

b) In the Claims

Cancel Claim 30, without prejudice.

Amend Claims 27, 31, 32, 35, 36, 41, and 42 as follows.

27. (Once Amended) A friendship band with a plurality of closed loop members, comprising:

a) a band section made of a first material that is flat in cross-section and has first and second ends;

b) a closure means attached to the first and second ends of the band section for releasably connecting the first end to the second end; and

c) a plurality of closed loop members mounted on the band section, wherein each closed loop member is made of a second material that is elastic so it may be elastically expanded, is flat in cross-section, has a loop opening that conforms to the cross-section of the band section when mounted thereon, includes an indicia on a portion of an exposed surface thereof, and is removable from the first or second end of the band section so it may be exchangeable with closed loop members of other friendship bands.

31. (Once Amended) A friendship band as recited in Claim 27, wherein the second material is selected from the group consisting of nylon and silk.

32. (Once Amended) A friendship band as recited in Claim 27, wherein the closure means includes a first portion that is attached to the first end of the band section

and a second portion that is attached to the second end of the band section, and at least one of the first and second closure means portions has a cross-section that is larger than the loop opening of each closed loop member, whereby each closed loop member is elastically expanded to pass over the at least one of the first and second closure means portions so to remove each closed loop member from the friendship band.

35. (Once Amended) A friendship band as recited in Claim 27, wherein the second material is a fabric material that is joined at a seam line by a mechanism selected from the group consisting of stitches, glue, staples, and laser fusion.

36. (Once Amended) A friendship band as recited in Claim 27, wherein the first material and second material are the same type of material.

41. (Once Amended) A method of using a first friendship band and a second friendship band, comprising:

- a) providing a first friendship band including a band section having closure means for connecting ends of the band section, and a plurality of closed loop members each having a first indicia thereon and mounted onto the band section;
- b) opening the closure means of the first friendship band and removing one of the plurality of closed loop members having first indicia thereon;
- c) exchanging the removed one of the plurality of closed loop members with a closed loop member having a second indicia thereon removed from a second friendship band; and
- d) replacing the closed loop member having a second indicia thereon onto the first friendship band and connecting the closure means thereof.

42. (Once Amended) A method of using a first friendship band and a second friendship band, comprising:

- a) providing a first friendship band including a first band section having closure means for connecting ends of the first band section, and a plurality

of closed loop members each having a first indicia thereon and mounted onto the first band section of the first friendship band;

- b) providing a second friendship band including a second band section having closure means for connecting ends of the second band section, and a plurality of closed loop members each having a second indicia thereon and mounted onto the second band section of the second friendship band;
- c) opening the closure means of the first friendship band and removing one of the plurality of closed loop members having first indicia thereon;
- d) opening the closure means of the second friendship band and removing one of the plurality of closed loop members having second indicia thereon;
- e) replacing the one of the plurality of closed loop members having first indicia thereon onto the second band section of the second friendship band and connecting the closure means thereof; and
- f) replacing the one of the plurality of closed loop members having second indicia thereon onto the first band section of the first friendship band and connecting the closure means thereof.

Add new independent Claim 43 as follows.

43. (New) A friendship band with a plurality of closed loop members, comprising:

- a) a band section made of a first material that is elastic so it may be elongated by stretching, is flat in cross-section, and has first and second ends;
- b) a closure means attached to the first and second ends of the band section for releasably connecting the first end to the second end; and
- c) a plurality of closed loop members mounted on the band section, wherein each closed loop member is made of a second material, is flat in cross-section, has a loop opening that conforms to the cross-section of the band section when mounted thereon, includes an indicia on a portion of an exposed surface